## Agriculture

Proposed Recipient:

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology

326 Market St.

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Amount requested:

\$2,394,472

Project description:

Agriculture Biotech Sciences Program Development Funding would underwrite the curriculum development, equipment, and supporting technology to create the program at this science and technology-focused university. Students enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate degree programs

will learn the latest methods in biotechnology and

nanotechnology in the context of food science. The program is designed to support the future workforce needs of the agriculture industry and help to improve food safety, nutrition, and the quality of the food production process.

Proposed Recipient:

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

2301 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA 17110

Amount requested:

\$225,000

Project description:

Pennsylvania Livestock Protection Program

The focus of this program is to provide technical and operational assistance to all 58,000 Pennsylvania agriculture producers in identifying, controlling, and abating damage, animal health problems, and economic loss caused by black vultures, Canada geese, European starlings, coyotes, and other damaging wildlife. For example, the average

Pennsylvania dairy farm experiences about \$1,500 to \$3,000 in feed losses a year due to European starlings. Increased wildlife numbers have resulted in increased wildlife damage which results in economic loss for the agricultural industry.

Proposed Recipient:

Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council

2301 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA 17110

Amount requested:

\$290,000

Project description:

Save Pennsylvania Forest Jobs 2010

Funding will be used for regional industry support groups to work directly with companies on the ground in retaining sufficient jobs in the wood industry. This will ensure the continued existence and growth of the infrastructure necessary to restore the industry in domestic and world markets. It will also help to implement cellulosic ethanol and other local wood energy alternative initiatives. The

activities funded by this project have the potential to save as many as 20,000 jobs across Pennsylvania.

Proposed Recipient:

Pennsylvania Winery Association

411 Walnut St.

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Amount requested:

\$343,000

Project description: Expanding the Quality and Reach of Pennsylvania Wines

Funding would enable the winery industry to improve and

promote the quality of its wines and to increase their

availability throughout the state, contributing to the tax base, labor complement, and the enjoyment of citizens and tourists

who purchase these products. Pennsylvania's winery industry and wine grape producers account for an annual economic impact upwards of \$661 million, with 52,000 jobs

and \$167 million in tourism dollars.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

Amount requested:

\$400,000

Project description:

Ag Entrepreneurial Alternatives

This project provides a clear test of whether farmers are able to adapt successfully to urbanization, and what types of educational and other support are necessary to help them make such a transition from 'traditional' types of farming to value-added agricultural enterprises that allow them to make greater profits. Funding will be used to add members to an existing team focused on building entrepreneurial capacity of individual agricultural and food producers. The existing team, which focuses on the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia regions, will be expanded to cover the entire state.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

Amount requested:

\$400,000

Project description:

Improved Dairy Management Practices

The profitability of Pennsylvania dairy farms is inextricably tied to management decisions that are being made by farmers. Funding will be used to develop new technologies to address problems associated with dairy production in Pennsylvania in an effort to improve water quality, lower impacts of air emissions, and use energy more efficiently. Work supported by this program has led to improved efficiency of nutrient use on dairy farms, developed tools

and baseline data for dealing with air pollution, and contributed to technical analyses of on-farm energy generation from by-products of dairy production.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

Amount requested:

\$400,000

Project description:

Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources

The project will create a new collaborative research and education program that will help diverse farm operations better adopt more sustainable farming practices. Investment will increase field research and demonstrations to increase the exposure of farm advisors and farmers to sustainable cropping system practices. Funding will support research on

specific techniques to infuse environmentally and

economically sustainable practices into a wide variety of agricultural production systems. Research supported by this project can be translated directly to agricultural producers to provide them with alternatives to conventional agricultural practices that enhance soil and water conservation, diversify agricultural production, and harmonize agricultural and non-

agricultural land uses in local communities.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

*Amount requested:* 

\$550,000

Project description:

Enhanced Dairy Farm Profitability

The overall goal of this project is to improve dairy farm profitability. Funding for this project will provide technological solutions to real-world problems that are reducing profitability of Pennsylvania (and U.S.) dairy farmers. Technologies will be validated for their economic impacts and delivered as part of a broader economic analysis of individual farms. Tools developed by this special grant investment are passed directly to local dairy farms through Pennsylvania's state Cooperative Extension programs.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

*Amount requested:* 

\$800,000

Project description:

Milk Safety

Funding will be used to identify issues in milk and dairy products safety and seek interventions that can be transferred

to producers, processors, distributors, and retailers to continue to improve consumer confidence in the quality of their food supply. The project will continue to develop more sensitive, accurate, and cost-effective diagnostic tools to identify pathogens and toxins, to develop and evaluate alternative preservation techniques that ensure safety of dairy products while preserving food quality attributes, to evaluate the benefits and risks involved with consumer and producer interest in raw milk products, and to examine the integrity of the supply chain that moves dairy products from the farm gate to the consumer.

Proposed Recipient:

The Pennsylvania State University

117 Old Main

University Park, PA 16802

Amount requested: Project description:

\$1,000,000

Integrated Bioenergy Farm

The Integrated Bioenergy Farm will focus a unique interdisciplinary research program on Penn State farmland. Bioenergy crops will be integrated into food production cropping systems relevant to the Northeast. Funding will be used to create and support an Integrated Bioenergy Farm that will optimize bioenergy crop production for Pennsylvania and link production to all steps of the bioenergy cycle. The Integrated Bioenergy Farm will connect research, resident education, and extension education programming to provide Pennsylvania and the nation with next-generation solutions to bio-renewable resources.